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of such contribution, if insisted on by the Heads of Departments, so that they may have the benefits of reading rooms, wells and all other facilities available under the Rural Welfare Scheme? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" I am sorry the hon. Member did not hear my reply. It covers his request. However, I may state that Collectors have been given discretion to accept whatever contributions are forthcoming, if at all they are forthcoming, from the Harijans. In practice, if no contribution is forthcoming, the works are executed without any contribution whatever from the Harijans."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know whether the Government have refunded one-third of the amount contributed by the Harijans of Perur in Musiri taluk, for the construction of a school-building? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know if the reading rooms are popular and what the average monthly attendance of the people in the localities is? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" To give a specific instance, in Tiruvallur taluk, the average attendance is about 800 per month."

Export of onions and chillies.

*169 *Q.*—SRI G. C. KONDAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the basis on which the surplus available for export from Madras State was determined by the Madras Government with regard to onions and chillies?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The quantity of onions and chillies available for export to foreign countries from this State are determined after a review of their price trends and on the basis of past production, future crop prospects and the quantity required for consumption in the State and also bearing in mind the free and unrestricted movement of these commodities from one State to another within the country."

SRI G. C. KONDAYYA :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that after the stoppage of these exports, the producers of onions and chillies have suffered a lot? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Whatever surplus quantity is available has been allowed to be exported. The other quantities are required for internal consumption."

SRI G. **RAMA RAO** :—" ఆముదములయొక్క import, export లెక్కలు చెప్పగలరా ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question."